

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	Chemical Storage Warehouses under the Ministry of Chemical Industry	DATE DISTR.	18 June 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	13
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
25X1A		REFERENCES	
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]		

25X1X

Following is a list of the chemical storage warehouses maintained by the Ministry of Chemical Industry throughout Czechoslovakia:

Prague Region

1. The Prague Region, with four storage warehouses, was the ministry's largest storage center in Czechoslovakia. Besides products of Czechoslovakia's chemical industry, Prague stored practically all the chemicals imported by the ministry. Prague was the only region in Czechoslovakia capable of supplying any and all chemical products.
 - a. The first of these storage centers was located in Prague VII, at Argentinska ulice 28. Located in the area of a former factory, Argentinska (as it was commonly referred to) consisted of a two-story administration building and, about 20 m. away, the storage warehouse, which had one floor above ground and two floors underground. The administration building was located across the street from the Holesovice railroad freight station. The warehouse measured approximately 100 x 15 m. and the ground floor was five m. high; the two underground floors were each only about three meters high. Storage facilities at the warehouse were so inadequate that the head of the warehouse was cautioned several times by an inspection commission about over-storage. No spur tracks existed, and all goods had to be brought in and shipped out by truck. Since the premises are so old, [REDACTED] they will not be expanded. [REDACTED] within the next five years the warehouse will be relocated in Chvaly Poceruice, about 15 km. east of Prague. Most of the items stored at Argentinska wer

25X1A
25X1A

SECRET

25X1A

not quick turnover items. Among the principal items stored there were cyanides, resins, and galvanic salts. Most of the imported solid chemicals were also stored there. Argentinska was the only place in Czechoslovakia where galvanic salts were stored, the reasons being fourfold:

- (1) Galvanic salts are used in small quantities, never more than a ton being shipped out to any one factory at a time, therefore making it practicable to have one focal storage point.
- (2) They are poisonous and therefore need special handling.
- (3) A laboratory is needed for testing their application.
- (4) The only factory producing galvanic salts, Draslovka, was located in Uhrineves, which is near Prague.

A group of experts was employed by the warehouse to advise consumers on the proper application and use of galvanic salts. Most of the goods stored at Argentinska, with the exception of galvanic salts, were stored unpacked and were packaged only when ready to be shipped. [REDACTED] as everywhere in Czechoslovakia, there was a great shortage of zinc-lined iron barrels. Approximately 10 warehouse workers were employed at the warehouse. As Argentinska was the administrative center for the Prague Region, approximately 50 administrative employees worked there.

- b. Libensky Ostrov, the second of the storage warehouses for chemicals in Prague, was scheduled to be moved [REDACTED] to Chvaly Pocerne. The transfer of chemicals from there was begun in the Summer of 1952. Its facilities were to be turned over to the Ministry of Wood and Paper for a research laboratory for tar paper and linoleum and a storage warehouse for PAPCO, a foreign trade enterprise of the Ministry of Wood and Paper. Libensky Ostrov was Prague Region's main storage center for all kinds of liquid chemicals, particularly acids, and for tar derivatives. The latter were stored in iron barrels. Acids were stored in 50-lit. glass carboys. The preferred method of storing acids was in 500-lit. ceramic containers until ready to be shipped, whereupon they were poured into the carboys, but because of the shortage of ceramic containers, most of the acid had to be stored in the 50-lit. carboys. Two spur tracks led into the warehouse; all goods were shipped in by rail, but most goods were shipped out by truck.
- c. The third of the storage warehouses for chemicals in Prague was situated in the Bubenska (Prague VII) railroad station. Since the warehouse belonged to the railroad station, the Ministry had to pay rental to the railroad. Its ownership by the railroad also precluded any expansion, inasmuch as the Ministry could not dictate any expansion plans to the railroad. The warehouse was only about 10 m. from the passenger station. It was of brick construction and measured about 100 m. long by about 15 m. wide and 10-15 m. high. Its facilities were always used to the maximum. No repacking was done there, the chemicals being shipped out in their original containers. Only 15 years old, this warehouse [REDACTED] has excellent storage facilities, especially for dyestuffs, and its location at a railroad station facilitates transportation. It was the only warehouse in Prague for the storage of dyestuffs and auxiliary chemicals for the tanning and textile industries. All the dyestuffs imported from the Soviet Union were stored there; [REDACTED] about 100 tn. of Soviet dyestuffs were stored there, [REDACTED] import of these dyestuffs started in 1952 and was to increase even more than that, [REDACTED]. The Czech textile industry was unaccustomed to Soviet dyestuffs and found them to be of rather inferior quality. The result was that

SECRET

it was reluctant to use them and that the Ministry had an oversupply of Soviet dyestuffs, a situation which will become increasingly acute. Lacquers and paints, which were stored there [REDACTED] were scheduled to be transferred in the near future to Argentinska. Trichlorethylene, which was also stored there [REDACTED] was scheduled to be transferred to Chvaly Pocernice. Dyestuffs were stored in iron barrels of 50, 100, and 200 kg. capacity. Auxiliary chemicals for the textile and tanning industries were stored in wooden and, occasionally, in iron barrels of 100, 200, and 250 kg. capacity. The warehouse was supervised from Argentinska. On the premises were a warehouse foreman (skladnik), who was responsible for checking the goods in and out, and several warehouse workers.

- d. The last of the four storage warehouses for chemicals in Prague was located at Chvaly Pocernice, which, according to rumors [REDACTED] is scheduled to be the central warehouse for the Prague Region and the largest of the Ministry's storage depots. This warehouse was a factory for linoleum and tar paper until about 1950; it was acquired by the Ministry in August 1952. Covering an area of about 20 hectares and surrounded by a wire fence, there is considerable room for the expansion which is intended during the second five-year plan. This expansion will undoubtedly include an addition to the two existing spur tracks. [REDACTED] there were three warehouses; they were built of postwar brick with concrete bases, each with about 800 sq. m. of floor space and 5-6 m. high. [REDACTED] the principal chemicals stored there were liquids, especially acids, and tar derivatives and tar paper. Chemicals were shipped in and out by rail and truck, depending upon the proximity of the producers and consumers (those near the warehouse had their goods shipped by truck). Armed civilian guards were on duty during the night only. No pass was necessary to enter the administration building but one was needed to get into the warehouses. Administered from Argentinska, the warehouse had a foreman, who was responsible for shipments in and out of the warehouse, and about 10 warehouse workers.
- e. In Prague VII, at Partizanska 65, there was a laboratory which tested dyestuffs and recommended the proper application of them; it also did some research.

Brno Region

2. There were two Brno regional storage warehouses for chemicals, both located in Brno and referred to by their street addresses, Masna 100 and Masna 106. Practically next to each other, these warehouses were located opposite the Brno slaughter house. Besides servicing the Brno Region, these two warehouses serviced the Olomouc Region, which had no storage warehouse for chemicals. Both of these warehouses were usually filled to capacity. The administrative offices for these warehouses were located at Zerovnicka 8 in Brno. Josef NOVOTNY was in charge of the Brno Regional Warehouses and Jan SINDELAR was the head of the Commercial Department for Chemicals. About 20 people comprised the administrative staff. The same warehouse foreman was in charge of both warehouses, supervising about 15 workers.

SECRET

a. Masna 106 was an old structure which was in a rectangular horseshoe shape, one side about 40 m., the second about 100 m., and the third 80 m. Each of the three sides was about 4 m. wide. Masna 106 was located in an area owned by the Ministry covering about 30 hectares. It will be greatly expanded during the next five-year plan. All kinds of chemicals were stored there, with the exception of liquids (which were stored in Masna 100) and explosive and combustible materials such as industrial explosives, lacquers and paints, tar derivatives, etc. Explosive and combustible materials were supplied to the Brno Region from Kyjov [4901N-1707E], the warehouse of the Gottwaldov Region. Masna 106 had no spur track leading into it and had to send trucks to the track for Masna 100, a short distance away. As was the case with other warehouses, deliveries to points less than 30 km. away were made by truck; [REDACTED] 25X1A [REDACTED] this was to be extended to 100 km. because of the lack of freight cars.

b. Masna 100, the second of the two warehouses for the storage of chemicals in the Brno Region, was sometimes called Drevona because the facilities were owned by the Ministry of Wood Industry. [Drevo means lumber.] The Ministry used part of two wooden structures, each about 80 m. long, 15 m. wide, and 4-5 m. high, but the Ministry's stores will be transferred to Masna 106 after the latter is expanded. A spur track ran into the area of Masna 100. All liquid chemicals, especially acids, for the Brno Region were stored there. Acids were shipped in tank cars directly from the factories to Masna 100, where they were poured into glass carboys, usually of 50-lit. size. These glass carboys, of which the Ministry of Chemical Industry had about 60,000, had to be returned to the warehouse by the consumer within one month after they were received; otherwise, the consumer was fined an amount about four to five times the value of the carboys. The preferred manner of storing acids was in ceramic containers, but there was a shortage of these [REDACTED] Masna 100 had none and therefore had to store acids in glass carboys. It was hoped that at some time [REDACTED] there would be enough ceramic containers to have all warehouses store acids in them rather than in carboys, using the latter only when making shipments from the warehouse to the consumer; [REDACTED] only Prague and a few 25X1A other regions had such facilities. Besides liquid chemicals, lesser amounts of other chemicals, including dyestuffs, combustibles, and explosives were stored at Masna 100.

Bratislava Region

3. The regional storage warehouse for chemicals in the Bratislava Region was located in Bratislava at Bottova 5. This warehouse also supplied the Nitra Region and the southern part of Zilina Region, neither of which had a warehouse for chemicals. Formerly a factory of the Slovak Chemical Works, the buildings used for a warehouse were taken over by the Ministry of Chemical Industry in July 1951. Bottova 5 was the only storage center for the Bratislava Region and was the most modern of the storage warehouses maintained by the Ministry. Since its storage facilities were inadequate, it will probably be expanded in the future; several buildings in the area which did not belong to the Ministry [REDACTED] were scheduled to be transferred to the Ministry in 1954. [See Annex A for a sketch of the Bottova 5 storage 25X1A warehouse facilities.] [REDACTED] the shortage of storage space necessitated the storage of chemicals together which should not have been stored together. A brick wall about four meters high surrounded most of the area. In charge of the warehouse was Gejza DURCEK, a former worker. The Commercial Department for Chemicals was headed by (fnu) VOKAN. (Fnu) ROLKO headed the section for tires in the Commercial Department for Chemicals. (Fnu) CHMELA headed the Administrative Department. The administrative staff comprised about 30 people, and approximately 10 workers were employed in the warehouse.

SECRET

Ostrava Region

4. Ostrava Region had three warehouses for the storage of chemicals. The administrative office for the Ostrava Region warehouses was located on Hlavní Trida, across from the Palace Hotel in Ostrava. Headed by (fnu) ZEZULKA, the administrative staff comprised about 20 people. (Fnu) KUKOL was in charge of the Commercial Department for Chemicals, [REDACTED] 25X1A

- a. The first of these three storage warehouses was located on Folprechtova ul. and was formerly the Eternitas factory, which produced fireproof ceramics. Half of the facilities here were at the disposal of the Ministry of Chemical Industry, the other half being used for the storage of ceramics. The Ministry had one two-story building, 50-60 x 50-60 m.; in addition, it had an open area of about 800 sq. m. This warehouse is destined to become the central chemical storage warehouse for the Ostrava Region. Upwards of five hectares of land will provide enough space for the expansion intended during the next five-year plan. [REDACTED] 25X1A

[REDACTED] Meanwhile, however, the Ministry will attempt to take over the space used for storing ceramics. Only solid chemicals, including lacquers and paints, were stored at Folprechtova. No dyestuffs or explosives were stored there. A single spur track which led into the building seemed adequate for the warehouse. The administrative staff was headed by (fnu) POLVARZCNY and comprised about four people. In addition approximately eight warehouse workers were employed there.

- b. Skladiste Čechoslovakia, located across four spur tracks from the Ostrava Oil Refineries, was the second of the chemical storage warehouses in Ostrava. Consisting of a one story structure approximately 150 m. long, 6 m. wide, and 4 m. high, this warehouse also included a large open area for storing empty carboys. This warehouse was considered temporary and was scheduled to be transferred to Folprechtova upon the latter's expansion. A factory for the production of fats is supposed to be constructed in the open area [REDACTED] but the Ministry will retain most of its storage facilities. Most liquid chemicals (but no oil) were stored there. A warehouse foreman was in charge, and he had about 10 workers assisting him. 25X1A
- c. The third storage warehouse for chemicals was located at Pobebradova ul. 55, in Ostrava. It was very small, consisting of 300-400 sq. m. of floor space on two floors. It too was scheduled to be transferred to Folprechtova after the latter is expanded. [REDACTED] only tar paper was stored there. There were no regular employees, the warehouse foreman at Folprechtova being in charge here also.

Banska Bystrica Region

5. The only chemical storage warehouse in Banska Bystrica Region was located in a former lumber mill at Ulanka, which is about eight kilometers north of Banska Bystrica on the main road between Banska Bystrica and Harmanec [4849N-1903E]. In addition to supplying the Banska Bystrica Region this warehouse supplied the regions of Košice and Presov and the northern part of Zilina Region (a new chemical storage warehouse is scheduled to be built in Košice Region and will supply both Košice and Presov Regions). There was only one structure used for storage purposes; it measured about 50 x 30 x 8 m. This building had a basement which was not in use [REDACTED] but which was scheduled to be used as a storage space for tires. Besides this building, there were three small buildings; one was used as a garage, the second as an office for the warehouse foreman, and the third as storage space for empty

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-6-

containers. The main storage building was situated in a hollow about five meters below the railroad spur track. In 1952 a conveyor was built from this track to the warehouse in order to facilitate the unloading of freight cars. Alongside the spur track were six new ceramic containers for liquid chemicals measuring about one meter in diameter and about four meters high. Liquid chemicals could be transferred directly from tank cars to the containers. Six additional ceramic containers were scheduled to be emplaced in the near future. These storage facilities were inadequate and the warehouse had to have assistance from storage warehouses in Brno, Bratislava, and Ostrava. [REDACTED] plans for the construction of a new storage warehouse to be erected during the next five-year plan, [REDACTED] this new warehouse is supposed to have about 3,000 sq. m. of floor space. The principal chemicals stored in the Ulanka warehouse were liquids (in the ceramic containers), all kinds of solid chemicals, auxiliary chemicals for the textile and tanning industries, and tar paper. These goods were brought in on the one spur track, which was about six kilometers from the main railroad line. This warehouse, unlike other chemical storage warehouses, delivered goods to consumers by trucks, of which it had three. The reason for this was that the area is mountainous and the consumers' factories quite small and without trucks of their own. The warehouse had only a warehouse foreman in charge and 10 to 15 warehouse workers. The administration office for chemical storage facilities in Banska Bystrica Region was located at ul. Cervene Armady 4, in Banska Bystrica. Headed by Antonin (?) GELLER, the administrative staff consisted of about 15 people. The head of the Commercial Department for Chemicals was (fnu) SCHOLZ; [REDACTED]

Hradec Kralove Region

6. [REDACTED] the Hradec Kralove Region had no chemical storage warehouse and had to rely on the facilities of other governmental agencies. One of the facilities used for the Region was the railroad station at Slezske Predmesti, a suburb of Hradec Kralove. This station was really more of a transfer point than a warehouse, handling all kinds of chemicals except liquids; it included an open, partly covered area of about one-quarter hectare which mainly was used for storing empty drums. The other facility used for the Region was in Nachod [5025N-1610E] and belonged to Metrans. For the use of the premises, the Ministry of Chemical Industry paid Metrans 11 to 15 crowns for every ton of goods which passed through there. This too was principally a transfer point, but some goods were occasionally stored there for a day or two. Mostly liquid chemicals, particularly acids, were handled; the acid was poured from tank cars directly into glass carboys which were transported to the consumers. Inasmuch as these facilities were inadequate for supplying Hradec Kralove Region and Pardubice Region (which was also supplied by Hradec Kralove Region), new storage warehouses were being planned. [REDACTED] three warehouses were being planned, one for tires and two for chemicals, with a combined total of 8,000 sq. m. of floor space. The only site [REDACTED] for this purpose was just opposite the railroad station in Slezske Predmesti. [REDACTED] all kinds of chemicals will be stored in the two new chemical storage warehouses. Chemical storage facilities for Hradec Kralove Region were administered from offices located in Hradec Kralove, on Svermova ul. 1. (Fnu) SUBRT was in charge of about 30 administrative employees and about 10 warehouse workers. The head of the Commercial Department for Chemicals was Zdislav SYKORA, who, [REDACTED] will be removed, as he lost his major's rank and was dismissed from the Czech Army as politically unreliable in 1948. [REDACTED]

SECRET

Liberec Region

7. Liberec Region had two chemical storage warehouses, one in Liberec and the other in Rochlice, which is about five kilometers north of Liberec. A warehouse which the Ministry had maintained for the storage of chemicals in Rumburk /5057N-1434E7 was abandoned on 1 September 1952 and the goods transferred to the warehouse in Liberec. Another chemical storage warehouse in Jablonec nad Nisou /5043N-1511E7 was scheduled to be closed down [REDACTED] 25X1A and its stores transferred to the warehouse in Liberec. The warehouse in Jablonec nad Nisou stored principally galvanic salts. The administration office for Liberec Region was located on Nakladní ulice 21, in Liberec. Next to the administration building was an open area of about one-quarter hectare where empty drums and glass carboys were kept. Jan DLUHOS headed the administration of chemical storage warehouses in Liberec Region. [REDACTED]

- a. The warehouse in the city of Liberec was located at the Liberec freight station. It was situated in an open area of about 4,000 sq. m. It had three underground tanks, with capacities of 20,000 to 30,000 lit. each, for liquids other than acids. One tank contained tar or tar derivatives, the second tank, ammonia, [REDACTED] the third tank contained. There were also 12 ceramic containers for acids. These were each about one meter in diameter and about four meters high. The rest of the area was used for storing barrels and glass carboys. There were two warehouses in the area, one brick and the other wooden, with a combined total floor space of about 1,000 sq. m. Such solid chemicals as carbides and soda were stored there; no lacquers or paints were stored. These two buildings were usually filled to capacity. [REDACTED] no con- 25X1A templated expansion plans for the storage facilities at this railroad station. A foreman was in charge of the warehouse, and there were about 10 warehouse workers.

- b. The other chemical storage warehouse for Liberec Region, the one in Rochlice, was located in a former textile factory. Two buildings of this factory have been repaired and were in use as storage warehouses; there were also two or three three-story buildings which were to be repaired and also used as warehouses, [REDACTED] this will be accomplished in the next five-year plan. The two buildings being used by the Ministry were one-story structures about 200 m. long and 30 m. wide of brick construction and with glass roofs. Since the only rail facilities consisted of a single spur track too far away to be of much practical use, most goods had to be shipped in and out by truck. A spur track is scheduled to be laid which will lead up to the warehouses, [REDACTED] The principal items stored there were lacquers and paints, auxiliary chemicals for the textile and tanning industries, and dyestuffs. The dyestuffs stored there had been purchased by various Czech firms before the Communists came to power, had subsequently been purchased by the Ministry's Eighth Main Administration, and were to be used before relying on domestic production. A warehouse foreman and about five workers were employed at this warehouse.

SECRET

Usti nad Labem Region

8. In the Region of Usti nad Labem were three storage warehouses; the first, used for the storage of dyestuffs, was located at the Spolek Chemical Plant in Usti nad Labem; the second, used for the storage of chemicals, was also located at the Spolek Chemical Plant; and the third, used for the storage of chemicals, was at Krasne Brezno, a suburb of Usti nad Labem. The administrative office for the Region was located in Usti nad Labem at Revolucni ulice 76, near the Spolek Chemical Plant. At the head of the administrative staff for the Region was Josef HANZLIK; (fnu) SOBOTKA headed the Commercial Department for Chemicals, and (fnu) PFIFL was in charge of the Administrative Department. About 15 people comprised the administrative staff.

a. The dyestuffs storage warehouse at the Spolek Plant in Usti was a four-story building measuring about 40 x 30 m. Three stories were used by the Ministry's Eighth Main Administration for storage purposes, and one floor, the second, was used by Spolek for storage purposes. The storage space used by the Ministry was rented from Spolek. [REDACTED] all the dyestuffs produced by Spolek could not be stored in this building (only dyestuffs produced by Spolek were stored there) because of the low demand for the particular dyestuffs Spolek produced. An effort was being made to locate additional storage space for a short time. The building cannot be expanded [REDACTED] no plans for obtaining additional storage facilities for dyestuffs on a permanent basis. Since the Spolek Chemical Plant was a large complex, there were ample transportation facilities. Dyestuffs in all the basic colors were stored there. When an order came in for a specific shade of a color, the basic color was returned to the factory for production of the shade desired. Administratively, the warehouse was managed by three people in the regional office in Usti nad Labem. Warehouse workers were provided by Spolek, and the Ministry's Eighth Main Administration paid them a handling charge of about 2½ crowns per ton.

25X1A

25X1A

b. The chemical storage warehouse at Spolek was across the road from the plant and connected to it by a bridge. After the chemical storage warehouse at Krasne Brezno is fully completed, this building will be used principally by Spolek for storage. Until the warehouse at Krasne Brezno has sufficient railroad facilities, however, this warehouse will be used by the Ministry for the storage of liquid chemicals. Only half this building was used by the Ministry. The building itself was four stories and measured about 200 x 30 m. Since the building was quite old, no expansion was contemplated. Two spur tracks led alongside the warehouse, and there was a loading zone for trucks on the other side. All kinds of chemical goods, both solid and liquid, were stored there. Liquid chemicals were poured directly from tank cars into glass carboys for shipment to consumers. A warehouse foreman and about six or seven workers were employed there.

c. The storage facilities at Krasne Brezno [REDACTED]

25X1A

[REDACTED] Comprising about five buildings with a combined total of 7,000 to 8,000 sq. m. of floor space, this former lacquer and paint factory will not be expanded.

25X1A

SECRET

tracks were already laid in this area. [REDACTED]

25X1A

The railroad facilities at the Krasne Brezno warehouse were not very good; spur tracks stopped on the other side of the road, and goods would have to be transported by truck into the warehouse. All kinds of chemical goods, except liquid chemicals, will be stored there. [REDACTED]

Jihlava Region

25X1A

9. Jihlava Region had only one chemical storage warehouse. It was located in Bedřichov, a small village about three or four kilometers from Jihlava in the direction of Prague. Formerly the building of a tar paper factory called Drsato, this warehouse was very small and quite inadequate for supplying the entire region (although the region is mountainous and poor, plans have been drawn up to construct factories to produce heavy machinery). Consequently, many of the chemicals needed by the Region had to be supplied from Prague and Brno. [REDACTED] the Ministry was seeking a building in the region large enough to store the chemicals needed there. [REDACTED]

25X1A

[REDACTED] it was considered temporary. The administrative office for chemical storage in Jihlava Region was located in Havlickuv Brod /4937N-1535E/. The administrative staff consisted of about eight people, headed by (fnu) SETKA. Stanislav EHRLICH was in charge of the Commercial Department for Chemicals; [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

Pilsen Region

10. Pilsen Region had two storage warehouses for chemicals, both small. The first, [REDACTED] was formerly the building of the Sobotka Firm and was owned, [REDACTED] by Metrans. The other warehouse was located at Bolovec, a small village about 10 km. northwest of Pilsen. Both warehouses were considered temporary arrangements until a central warehouse could be found for the entire Region. [REDACTED]

25X1A

The two warehouses for the Pilsen Region were administered from a regional headquarters located opposite the main railroad station in Pilsen, at Nadrazni 21. Václav KUSY headed an administrative staff of about 15 people. (Fnu) CTRNACTA was in charge of the Administrative Department. [REDACTED]

- a. The warehouse which was formerly the Sobotka building was primarily a transfer point, and the Ministry paid Metrans about 11 crowns per ton for the goods which passed through there. Although some chemicals were stored there for several days, most items were quickly transshipped to the consumers. The warehouse was quite small, containing only 300 to 400 sq. m. of floor space. Since there were no railroad facilities, all chemicals were shipped in and out by truck. All kinds of chemicals were shipped through there with the exception of tar paper and lacquers and paints. All chemicals were shipped out ready to be used by the consumer, e.g., acids were sent out in glass carboys ready to be used. Since Metrans handled the shipments, no regular Ministry personnel were on duty there.

25X1A

SECRET

- b. The warehouse at Bolovec was formerly a small tar-paper factory. It included about 300 sq. m. of floor space and an open area of about 400 sq. m. A spur track which ended about 100 m. from the warehouse will not be extended because the warehouse is only temporary. Tar paper and lacquers and paints were the main items stored. Only a warehouse foreman and one worker were employed there.

Karlovy Vary Region

11. The only chemical storage warehouse in Karlovy Vary Region was located in Bohatice, a small village about four kilometers from Karlovy Vary in the direction of Jachymov. Its facilities were inadequate to store enough chemicals for the entire Region, thus necessitating dependence on the warehouses in Prague and Usti nad Labem for some chemicals. Because of the marshy land surrounding the area of the Bohatice warehouse, this warehouse cannot be expanded. [REDACTED] another storage warehouse for the Region was being sought, but there were no plans to erect a new one. Although no tracks led into the warehouse area, arrangements had been made with the railroad station to unload liquid chemicals directly from tank cars into glass carboys which could then be transported by truck to the warehouse. The warehouse consisted of five structures, all of one story. One structure was the administration building. A second structure measured about 30 x 10 m. and had only a makeshift covering; it was used mainly to store empty carboys and, occasionally, to store carboys filled with acid. Only lacquers and paints were stored in the third building, which was made of brick and measured about 30 x 10 x 6 m. The fourth building, partly brick and partly wooden, was divided into four sections; its overall dimensions were about 50 x 20 x 5 m., and all kinds of solid chemicals were stored there. The fifth structure, about 30 x 10 x 5 m., was used principally for the storage of acids and tar. There was also about one hectare of open area which was used to store filled and empty carboys and empty drums. Karlovy Vary Region's chemical storage administration offices were located on the main street of Karlovy Vary. Vladimir CHLAPIK headed an administrative staff of 8 to 10 people. (Fnu) HRADEK was in charge of the Commercial Department for Chemicals, [REDACTED]

Gottwaldov Region

25X1A

12. Only one chemical storage warehouse was located in Gottwaldov Region; it was situated in the southwest outskirts of Kyjov, in what was formerly a tar paper factory of the Urtala Firm. Kyjov is in the corner of the Region, and is a poor location for a regional warehouse. The facilities of the warehouse there were inadequate to service Gottwaldov Region. For these reasons the warehouse was only being used until another could be located, preferably in Gottwaldov. The storage facilities at the warehouse consisted of two structures, one an L-shaped building and the other rectangular. Solid chemicals were stored in that part of the L-shaped building which measured about 180 m. long by 5 m. wide; the other part of this structure, which was about 60 m. long by 10 m. wide, was used for the storage of liquid chemicals. The rectangular building, a one-story structure, measured about 100 x 40 m. and was used mainly for the storage of liquids, although some solids and lacquers and paints were also stored there. As the Kyjov railroad station was about two kilometers from the warehouse, all the chemicals had to be transported from the railroad station to the warehouse by truck. Acids were poured from the tank cars into glass carboys. The warehouse had to pay rent for the loading space at the railroad station, [REDACTED]

25X1A

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-11-

25X1A

25X1A

A warehouse foreman with two assistants and about seven warehouse workers were employed there. The administrative staff of the chemical storage warehouses for Gottwaldov Region was located in the administrative offices of the Svit plant in Gottwaldov. Prior to July 1952, Gottwaldov Region's chemical storage warehouses were administered from Brno.

25X1A

25X1A

the administrative staff in Gottwaldov was very small.

25X1A

Antonin SVOBODA was in charge of the Commercial Department for Chemicals,

25X1A

25X1A

Olomouc Region

25X1A

13.

there was no chemical storage warehouse in Olomouc Region, and this region was supplied by the warehouses in Brno and Ostrava Regions. Negotiations were under way, however, to acquire a group of five buildings in Olomouc. These were formerly the buildings of the firm of Kosmos, a margarine factory. The buildings which the Ministry of Chemical Industry was seeking were being used partly by the Ministry of Heavy Machinery for storing heavy machinery, particularly electric machinery, and partly by Verejna Skladiste (Public Warehouse), a transportation firm for internal trade, for storage purposes. One of the buildings was used for the storage of tires for the Olomouc Region. This building was located in Olomouc at Wolkerova ul. 36.

25X1A

One serious difficulty, which might have prevented the Ministry of Chemical Industry from acquiring these buildings, was the problem of locating adequate alternative storage facilities for the Ministry of Heavy Machinery to store its machinery. The administrative staff for storage facilities in Olomouc Region was located at the storage warehouse for tires on Wolkerova ul. As the Region had no chemical storage warehouse, the administrative organization was not similar to others (i.e., it was not subdivided into Commercial Department for Chemicals and Administrative Department),

25X1A

(fnu) STEPANEK was head of an administrative staff of four, two of whom were located in offices at Hlubocky, which is 10 to 15 km. east of Olomouc. Industrial explosives were stored at Hlubocky.

Česke Budejovice Region

14. Chemical storage facilities in Česke Budejovice Region were considered temporary; they were inadequate, and efforts were being made to locate another place. About 20% of the chemicals needed by Česke Budejovice Region were supplied by Prague. Adminis- trating the two chemical storage warehouses in the Region was a staff of about 10 people headed by Vaclav KASAL; (fnu) KOPRIVA was in charge of the Commercial Department for Chemicals, the Administrative Department. The head- quarters for this administrative staff was located in Česke Budejovice,

25X1A

25X1A

a. The first of the two chemical storage warehouses was part of the plant of Dehtochema, which belonged to the Main Adminis- tration of Paper and Cellulose of the Ministry of Forests and Lumber Industry. The Ministry of Chemical Industry paid rent for the facilities, Dehtochema, a tar-paper-producing factory, was transferred from the Ministry of Chemical Industry to the Ministry of

25X1A

SECRET

Timber and Paper in 1951. (Although tar paper was produced by plants and factories belonging to the Ministry of Timber and Paper, the distribution was handled by the Ministry of Chemical Industry; in the near future, however, [REDACTED] 25X1A [REDACTED] the distribution will be handled by the Ministry of Timber and Paper.) The storage facilities rented by the Ministry of Chemical Industry consisted of about one hectare of open area. Principally acids were stored there, but other liquid chemicals were also stored. The chemicals were kept in glass carboys. A spur track ran by the open area, and liquid chemicals were poured directly from tank cars into the glass carboys.

- b. The Ministry's other storage facilities in the Region consisted of a Metrans transfer point located in the Ceske Budejovice railroad station. All kinds of chemicals, mostly solids, were stored in a two-story building which had about 4,000 sq. m. of floor space; chemicals were never stored there very long. The Ministry of Chemical Industry supplied Metrans with about 90% of the latter's business at this place. Metrans supplied the labor force, and the Ministry paid it about 15 crowns a ton for goods which passed through there.

Zilina Region

15. No chemical storage warehouse existed in the Zilina Region at the [REDACTED] but about five hectares of land in the southern outskirts of Zilina had been obtained for the construction of a new chemical storage warehouse for the Region. When completed, these storage facilities will be used by other ministries as well. Meanwhile, Zilina Region was supplied in the north by Ostrava, in the south by Bratislava, and in the other parts by Banska Bystrica. The administrative office for Zilina Region was located somewhere in the center of Zilina, in a warehouse for tires. Zoltan FARKAS was in charge of a staff of five people.

Košice Region

16. Košice Region also had no chemical storage warehouse. [REDACTED] 25X1A [REDACTED] plans were under consideration to construct a warehouse for the Region, but no site had been selected. The Region was meanwhile being supplied mostly by Banska Bystrica. The administrative office for storage warehouses in the Region was located in a tire storage warehouse in Košice at Namesti Republiky 6. The staff consisted of three people headed by (fnu) HOFFEJ.

Pardubice Region

17. No chemical storage warehouses existed in the Pardubice Region, and this region was supplied by Hradec Kralove. Since the industries of these two regions are very closely connected, Hradec Kralove will continue to supply Pardubice Region in the future. It was planned to have a chemical storage warehouse constructed in Hradec Kralove [REDACTED] which will be large enough to supply both regions.

Nitra Region

18. There were no chemical storage warehouses in Nitra Region [REDACTED] 25X1A [REDACTED] no plans to create any. It was supplied by Bratislava.

Presov Region

19. Presov Region also had no chemical storage warehouses, [REDACTED] 25X1A [REDACTED] no plans for the construction of one. It was supplied by Banska Bystrica.

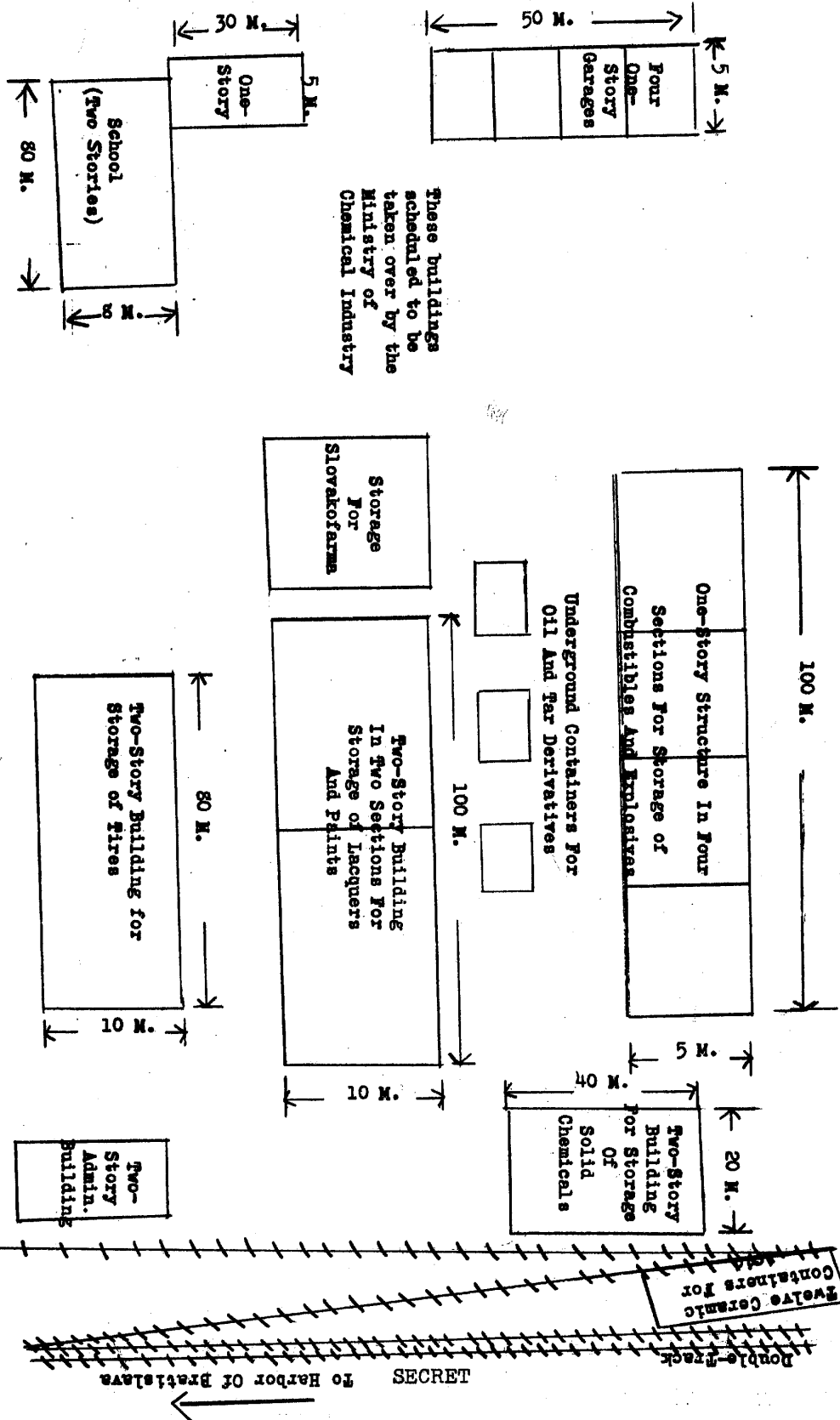
Annex:

- A. [REDACTED] Sketch of Bratislava Regional Chemical Storage Warehouse
SECRET

Annex: A

- 13 -

Sketch of Bratislava Regional Chemical Storage Warehouse



Botova ul.